

-continued

Ingredient	% w/w
NaOH	0.05
BHT	0.05
Fragrance	0.05

Various other features and embodiments of the present invention not specifically enumerated will be obvious to those skilled in the art, all of which may be achieved without departing from the spirit and the scope of the invention as defined by the following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A skin care composition comprising a water-in-oil emulsion and a retinoid selected from the group consisting of Vitamin A alcohol, Vitamin A aldehyde, retinyl acetate, retinyl palmitate and mixtures thereof, said composition further comprising a stabilizing system comprising a chelating agent and at least one water-soluble antioxidant said composition retaining at least about 60% by weight of said retinoid after 13 weeks storage at 40° C.
2. The skin care composition of claim 1 wherein the retinoid is Vitamin A alcohol.
3. The skin care composition of claim 1 wherein the water-soluble antioxidant is selected from the group consisting of ascorbic acid, sodium sulfite, sodium metabisulfite, sodium bisulfite, sodium thiosulfite, sodium formaldehyde sulfoxylate, isoascorbic acid, thioglycerol, thiosorbitol, thiourea, thioglycolic acid, cysteine hydrochloride, 1,4-diazobicyclo-(2.2.2)-octane and mixtures thereof.
4. The skin care composition of claim 3 wherein the water-soluble antioxidant is selected from the group consisting of ascorbic acid, sodium bisulfite, sodium metabisulfite, thioglycerol, sodium formaldehyde sulfoxylate and 1,4-diazobicyclo-(2.2.2)-octane and mixtures thereof.
5. The skin care composition of claim 4 wherein the water-soluble antioxidant is ascorbic acid.
6. The skin care composition of claim 1 wherein the chelating agent is selected from the group consisting of ethylenediamine tetracetic acid (EDTA) and derivatives and salts thereof, dihydroxyethyl glycine, citric acid, tartaric acid, and mixtures thereof.
7. The skin care composition of claim 6 wherein the chelating agent is selected from the group consisting of ethylenediamine tetracetic acid and derivatives and salts thereof.
8. A skin care composition comprising a water-in-oil emulsion and a retinoid selected from the group consisting of retinol, retinal, retinyl acetate, retinyl palmitate and mixtures thereof, said composition further comprising a stabilizing system comprising a chelating agent and at least one water-soluble antioxidant, said composition retaining at least about 60% of said retinoid after 13 weeks storage at 40° C.
9. The skin care composition of claim 8 wherein the retinoid is Vitamin A alcohol.
10. The skin care composition of claim 8 wherein the water-soluble antioxidant is selected from the group consisting of ascorbic acid, sodium sulfite, sodium metabisulfite, sodium bisulfite, sodium thiosulfite, sodium formaldehyde sulfoxylate, isoascorbic acid, thioglycerol, thiosorbitol, thiourea, thioglycolic acid, cysteine hydrochloride, 1,4-diazobicyclo-(2.2.2)-octane and mixtures thereof.
11. The skin care composition of claim 10 wherein the water-soluble antioxidant is selected from the group con-

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sisting of ascorbic acid, sodium bisulfite, sodium metabisulfite, thioglycerol, sodium formaldehyde sulfoxylate and 1,4-diazobicyclo-(2.2.2.)-octane and mixtures thereof.

12. The skin care composition of claim 11 wherein the water-soluble antioxidant is ascorbic acid.

13. The skin care composition of claim 10 wherein the chelating agent is selected from the group consisting of ethylenediamine tetraacetic acid (EDTA) and derivatives and salts thereof, dihydroxyethyl glycine, citric acid, tartaric acid, and mixtures thereof.

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14. The skin care composition of claim 13 wherein the chelating agent is selected from the group consisting of ethylenediamine tetracetic acid and derivatives and salts thereof.
- 5 15. The skin care composition of claim 10 wherein said stabilizing system comprises a chelating agent and antioxidant present in each of the oil and water phases of said emulsion.

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16. A method for manufacturing an emulsion skin care composition comprising an oil phase, a water phase, and a retinoid, wherein said method comprises mixing said oil phase and said water phase in the presence of argon.

17. A method of claim 16, wherein said retinoid is retinol.

18. A method of claim 17, wherein said retinoid is added to said emulsion after the mixing of said oil phase and said water phase.

19. A method of claim 17, wherein said retinoid is added to said oil phase of said emulsion prior to the mixing of said oil phase and said water phase.

20. A method of claim 17, wherein said emulsion is a water-in-oil emulsion.

21. A method of claim 18, wherein said emulsion is a water-in-oil emulsion.

22. A method of claim 17, wherein said composition retains at least about 60%, by weight, of said retinoid after 13 weeks of storage at 40° C.

23. A method of claim 21, wherein said composition retains at least about 60%, by weight, of said retinoid after 13 weeks of storage at 40° C.

24. A method of claim 17, wherein said retinoid is added to said emulsion in the absence of ultraviolet light.

25. A method of claim 23, wherein said retinoid is added to said emulsion in the absence of ultraviolet light.

26. A method of claim 17, further comprising the step of inserting said emulsion into containers in the presence of argon.

27. A method of claim 25, further comprising the step of inserting said emulsion into containers in the presence of argon.

28. A method of claim 17, wherein said composition further comprises a chelating agent.

29. A method of claim 25, wherein said composition further comprises a chelating agent.

30. A method of claim 17, wherein said composition further comprises a water-soluble anti-oxidant.

31. A method of claim 25, wherein said composition further comprises a water-soluble anti-oxidant.

32. A method of claim 17, wherein said composition further comprises an oil-soluble anti-oxidant.

33. A method of claim 25, wherein said composition further comprises an oil-soluble anti-oxidant.

34. A method of claim 29, wherein said composition further comprises an oil-soluble anti-oxidant.

35. A method of claim 17, wherein the pH of said composition is between about 4 to about 7.

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36. A method of claim 25, wherein the pH of said composition is between about 4 to about 7.

37. A method for manufacturing an emulsion skin care composition comprising an oil phase, a water phase, and a retinoid, wherein said method comprises:

- a) heating said oil phase above about 40°C;
- b) heating said water phase above about 40°C;
- c) mixing said heated oil phase and said heated water phase to form said emulsion; and
- d) cooling said emulsion in the presence of argon.

38. A method of claim 37, wherein said retinoid is retinol.

39. A method of claim 38, wherein said oil phase and said water phase are mixed together in the presence of argon.

40. A method of claim 39, wherein said retinoid is added to said emulsion after the mixing of said oil phase and said water phase.

41. A method of claim 40, wherein said retinoid is added to said oil phase of said emulsion prior to the mixing of said oil phase and said water phase.

42. A method of claim 38, wherein said emulsion is a water-in-oil emulsion.

43. A method of claim 40, wherein said emulsion is a water-in-oil emulsion.

44. A method of claim 38, wherein said composition retains at least about 60%, by weight, of said retinoid after 13 weeks of storage at 40 C.

45. A method of claim 43, wherein said composition retains at least about 60%, by weight, of said retinoid after 13 weeks of storage at 40 C.

46. A method of claim 38, wherein said retinoid is added to said emulsion in the absence of ultraviolet light.

47. A method of claim 45, wherein said retinoid is added to said emulsion in the absence of ultraviolet light.

48. A method of claim 38, wherein said oil phase and said water phase are each heated until all of the ingredients of said phases are substantially liquefied.

49. A method of claim 47, wherein said oil phase and said water phase are each heated until all of the ingredients of said phases are substantially liquefied.

50. A method of claim 38 , wherein said water phase is heated to above about 75° C, said oil phase is heated to above about 80° C, and said retinoid is added after the emulsion has cooled to below about 53° C.

51. A method of claim 49 , wherein said water phase is heated to above about 75° C, said oil phase is heated to above about 80° C, and said retinoid is added after the emulsion has cooled to below about 53° C.

52. A method of claim 38, further comprising the step of inserting said emulsion into containers in the presence of argon.

53. A method of claim 51, further comprising the step of inserting said emulsion into containers in the presence of argon.

54. A method of claim 38, wherein said container is a capped tube.

55. A method of claim 38, wherein said composition further comprises a chelating agent.

56. A method of claim 47, wherein said composition further comprises a chelating agent.

57. A method of claim 38, wherein said composition further comprises a water-soluble anti-oxidant.

58. A method of claim 47, wherein said composition further comprises a water-soluble anti-oxidant.

59. A method of claim 38, wherein said composition further comprises an oil-soluble anti-oxidant.

60. A method of claim 47, wherein said composition further comprises an oil-soluble anti-oxidant.

61. A method of claim 56, wherein said composition further comprises an oil-soluble anti-oxidant.

62. A method of claim 38, wherein the pH of said composition is between about 4 to about 7.

63. A method of claim 47, wherein the pH of said composition is between about 4 to about 7.]

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